



Minnesota Ag News – Hogs & Pigs

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Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

MINNESOTA HOG INVENTORY UNCHANGED

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 7.6 million hogs and pigs on March 1, 2012, unchanged from last year, but down 3 percent from the December 1, 2011 figure, according to the USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Breeding hogs totaled 550 thousand head, down 2 percent from a year earlier, but market hogs and pigs at 7.05 million head, were up marginally from a year ago.

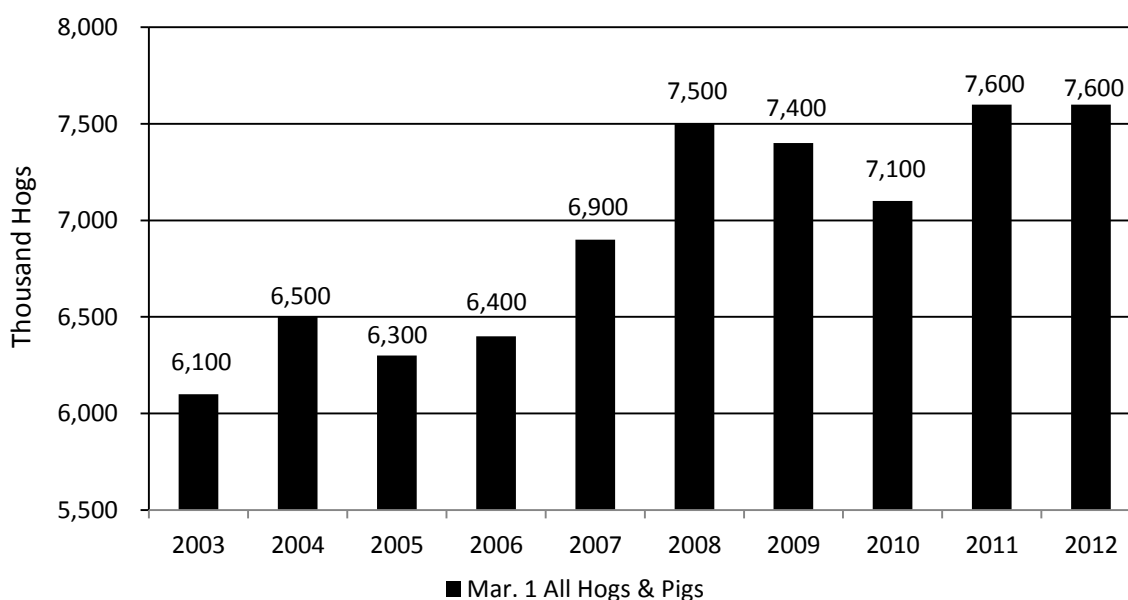
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY PIG CROP UP SLIGHTLY

Minnesota's December 2011-February 2012 pig crop totaled 2.90 million head, up slightly from a year earlier but down 3 percent from the September-November 2011 pig crop. The 290 thousand sows that farrowed during this period averaged 10.00 pigs per litter, down from 10.15 a year ago.

MARCH-MAY AND JUNE-AUGUST INTENTIONS

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 285 thousand sows during the March-May 2012 quarter. If realized, this would be down 3 percent from actual sows farrowed during the same period a year earlier. Producers also intend to farrow 290 thousand sows during the June-August 2012 quarter. If realized, this would be down 2 percent from actual sows farrowed during the same period in 2011.

Minnesota Hog Inventory 2003-2012



(See back page for U.S. highlights)

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Director

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 2 PERCENT

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2012 was 64.9 million head. This was up 2 percent from March 1, 2011, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2011.

Breeding inventory, at 5.82 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter.

Market hog inventory, at 59.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2011-February 2012 pig crop, at 28.7 million head, was up 3 percent from 2011. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.88 million head, up 1 percent from 2011. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.97 for the December-February period, compared to 9.80 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

REVISIONS

All inventory and pig crop estimates for March 2011 through December 2011 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of less than one percent was made to the September 2011 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one percent was made to the December 2011 total inventory. An adjustment of less than one percent was made to the June-August 2011 pig crop.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States, December-November 2011-2012^{1 2}**

Month	Sows Farrowing ¹		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop ¹	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Dec ²	953	956	9.81	9.97	9,345	9,527
Jan	954	964	9.76	9.95	9,312	9,587
Feb	936	957	9.83	10.00	9,210	9,568
Mar	986		10.02		9,880	
Apr	961		10.02		9,633	
May	970		10.04		9,739	
Jun	988		10.04		9,917	
Jul	966		10.00		9,662	
Aug	974		10.04		9,776	
Sep	984		10.03		9,869	
Oct	963		10.03		9,663	
Nov	947		10.01		9,482	
Total	11,582		9.97		115,486	

¹ Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.

² December preceding year.